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Statement from Ralph Brindis, M.D., M.P.H., president of the American College of Cardiology

"We strongly encourage the House of Representatives to pass the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) improvements contained in the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act (H.R. 4213).

"Four years of positive updates will provide physicians with the stability needed, while we look at real ways for true payment reform and eliminating the need for the SGR.

"The ACC continues to push for a permanent payment solution and is working with Congress on real ways to do that. We want the SGR repealed. However, Congress also must not allow the cuts to go through on June 1 and we are advocating on behalf of cardiology members in that regard.

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About the ACC:

The American College of Cardiology is leading the way to optimal cardiovascular care and disease prevention. The College is a 39,000-member nonprofit medical society and bestows the credential Fellow of the American College of Cardiology upon physicians who meet its stringent qualifications. The College is a leader in the formulation of health policy, standards and guidelines, and is a staunch supporter of cardiovascular research. The ACC provides professional education and operates national registries for the measurement and improvement of quality care. More information about the association is available online at www.acc.org.